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SUBJECT: ICES ANNUAL MEETING, 21-22, OCTOBER 2009, AND PICES
ANNUAL MEETING, 21-33 OCTOBER 2009

¶1. SUMMARY: The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES, <http://www.ices.int>) is the oldest intergovernmental organization in the world concerned with marine and fisheries science. ICES is the prime source of advice on the marine ecosystem to governments and international regulatory bodies that manage the North Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. It held its 2009 Annual Meeting at the organization's headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark. Key agenda items that were discussed included reporting on strategic and tactical issues within Advisory Services; potential integration of socio-economic and ecosystem aspects in ICES' advice; a proposal for a new Communications Strategy; elections and appointments; ICES and MARCOM+; ICES Strategic Plan; finance; and forthcoming Annual Science Conference and Council's Statutory Meetings. The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES, <http://www.pices.int>) held its 2009 Annual Meeting in Jeju, South Korea. PICES is an intergovernmental scientific organization established to promote and coordinate marine research in the North Pacific and adjacent seas especially northward of 30°N. Its objective is to advance scientific knowledge about the ocean environment, global weather and climate change, living resources and their ecosystems, and the impacts of human activities. Examples of topics of importance discussed at the Governing Council included approval of the implementation plan of the new PICES integrative scientific program (FUTURE); the Study Group on Human Dimensions; PICES Strategic Plan; a report of the Study Group on the Restructuring of the PICES Annual Meeting; schedule, structure, and financing of future Annual Meetings; report and recommendations of the Science Board; and report and recommendations of the Finance and Administration Committee. It is the goal of both ICES and PICES to increase interaction and collaboration amongst their respective administrative bodies and scientists in 2010 and beyond. For example, ICES and PICES, in consort with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), will be sponsoring a symposium on "Climate change effects on fish and fisheries: Forecasting impacts, assessing ecosystem responses, and evaluating management strategies" (April 25-29, 2010, Sendai, Japan). END SUMMARY.

¶2. Overview: The General Council (Council) of ICES held its 2009 annual meeting from 21-22 October at ICES Headquarters in Copenhagen. Eighteen of the 20 member states of the Council attended the meeting; Lithuania and Russia were absent. The Council is the decision and policy-making body of ICES. The General Council is comprised of two delegates from each member country. Dr. Steve Murawski, Head of Delegation (Director of Scientific Programs, NOAA Fisheries Service) and Dr. Edward Houde (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory) represented the United States (U.S.). Dr. Stephen DeVincent (State Department, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs) attended the Council Meeting as an observer.

¶3. Advisory Services: The Council finalized the establishment of ICES Advisory Services in 2008. Implementation of Advisory Services is conducted through the leadership of the Advisory Committee (ACOM). Members of ACOM consist of a scientist from each of the member countries, a Chair, and three Vice Chairs. Formation of ICES Advisory Services was a direct result of the major restructuring of both the scientific and advisory capacities of ICES during the previous two years. Advisory Services provides advice to client organizations or institutions on marine ecosystem issues, including fisheries management. Development and review of the basis for the advice is through several steps involving ICES experts.

The ACOM Chair presented the Advice Plan 2009-2011, which is designed to address six critical themes, and is associated with a high level objective. The themes are: data (access to more and better data); human resources (enhanced capability to contribute to advice); integration (integrated advice in scientific knowledge and ecosystems); user needs (responsiveness to advise users); credibility (of advice); and planning (harmonized with human and fiscal resources). The ACOM Chair's overall assessment of Advisory Services was that the transition to the new structure and procedures is proceeding reasonably well. The amount of work is increasing, and many challenges lie ahead.

Several countries commented that they look to the ACOM meeting in December 2009 to address the management of both human and financial resources as the new system increases the workload of scientists and the organization. Iceland put on record concerns about decision-making in ACOM. Iceland recommended that advice from ICES not be diluted while seeking consensus due to disagreement by a single or small group of member countries. Iceland encouraged ACOM to make use of voting procedures when appropriate. The President confirmed that it is within the mandate of ACOM to use tools that they have at hand, including voting procedures, to come to clear decisions.

Norway explained the background of a critical letter from Norway regarding ICES advice. In the letter, Norway commented that on some recent occasions ICES chose to use management plans for fish stocks developed by the European Union (EU) as basis for advice for fish stocks that are jointly managed by Norway and the EU. Norway stated that it cannot accept advice given on the basis of one party's (EU's) own management plan. Norway asked that ICES refrain from this practice and base its advice on management plans explicitly agreed to by both parties. The Chair of ACOM stated that the comments from Norway will be discussed further in the upcoming ACOM workshop, and a reply to Norway would be developed.

ACOM is formalizing a portfolio of advisory services that is broader than ICES' traditional advice product that focused heavily on fisheries. Important challenges face Advisory Service, including the workload that is very large and increasing in size. There is limited ability to manage the workload as no one has authority over all of the resources needed to produce advisory services and no entity pays the true cost of the services they request. The EC, for example, is not receptive to ICES' request for the EC to recover overhead costs. It was agreed that ICES, the scientific community, and users of advisory services, need to conduct a critical evaluation of

future needs and resource requirements. The demand for advice on fisheries management continues to dominate advisory services. For example, ICES' involvement with the EC's Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) will shape marine environmental policy for all industry sectors, including fisheries, for years to come.

More than a decade ago, ICES began providing fisheries advice based upon a precautionary approach. ICES extended its framework for advice to include precautionary management plans. There developed, however, instances in which precautionary plans developed for fisheries were not agreed upon by all ICES countries, which caused problems for countries in which the precautionary approach is not within national policy. It was determined that the degree of precaution is a management (i.e. political) decision that ICES should not make unilaterally. The issue will be further discussed at a workshop for fisheries advice 1-3 December in Lisbon and ACOM the following week. The letter from Norway to ICES address aspects of these issues.

While much of ACOM's efforts have been focused on its current workload, ACOM leadership has put effort into strategic planning. In so doing, ACOM, with support from SCICOM, has identified two topics that should be priorities for strategic initiatives. The first is scientific support for marine spatial planning, which is a vehicle for implementing an ecosystem approach and is considered a key process under the MSFD. The second proposed strategic initiative is global review of evaluation of fish stock assessment methods. ICES, however, is perceived as lagging behind in incorporating advances in stock assessment methodology. To address the situation, the ACOM Chair has initiated discussion about a strategic initiative to prepare a global overview of stock assessment models and to evaluate their respective strengths and weaknesses.

14. Review of the Advisory System: Council agreed to the establishment of a Council Working Group that will conduct a Review of the Advisory System. Terms of reference were adopted with amendments. Two of the objectives include review of outcomes of reform relative to objectives expressed in Council documents adopted in October 2007 and February 2008, and consideration of a relationship between Advisory Services and the ICES Science Program, with recommendations to facilitate the transition of research to advice. Frederick Arrhenius, Sweden, was appointed Chair of the Working Group. The President noted that the Working Group will report to the Bureau, the ICES Executive Committee, by June 2010. Members of the Bureau are comprised of the ICES President, one first Vice President, and five Vice Presidents. The Bureau members are elected from the Delegates.

15. Integration of Socio-economic and Ecosystem Aspects in Advice: The Chair of ACOM highlighted that many scientists in the ICES community embrace the integration of socio-economic and ecosystem aspects in advice and in ICES activities in general. There was significant discussion within Council on a proposal for a Council working group on economics and social sciences in ICES. It was expressed that managers and policy makers want economic and social impact assessments in addition to advice on fisheries and ecosystems. Norway, Poland, and Iceland did not support formation of a working group that incorporated socio-economic and ecosystem aspects into ICES advice. Norway commented that it would politicize ICES; it was Norway's view that such integration is needed in science, but not in advice. Denmark remarked that it should be in both places. Finland, Estonia, Ireland, UK, USA, and Canada supported the proposal that these aspects should be under ACOM. With revised Terms of Reference, Council adopted the Council Working Group on Integration of Socio-economic and Ecosystem Aspects in Advice. The terms of reference include (but are not limited to) review of current uses of ICES advice in current socio-economic assessments; identify research areas that would benefit from an integrated approach (i.e. development of bio-economic models); and propose a policy and method, if appropriate, on economics and social sciences in ICES advisory services. Martin Scholten, the Netherlands, was appointed Chair of the Council Working Group.

¶6. Report from the Scientific Committee (SCICOM) Chair: The Scientific Committee oversees all aspects of ICES' scientific work. SCICOM met on three occasions in 2009. At the Council Meeting, the Chair of SCICOM presented the 2009-2013 Science Plan, approved by Council in October 2008, and its implementation. Sixty-nine Science Expert Groups are involved in planning and coordinating scientific efforts in support of the Science Plan. Within the new science structure and responsibilities, in May 2009, SCICOM considered the report of its Working Group on Science leadership and decided to implement a Science Steering Group (SSG) structure based upon three Science Themes (Ecosystem Functions; Human Interactions on Ecosystems; and Sustainable Use of Ecosystems) and two Integrated Programs (Regional Sea Programs and Ecosystem Surveys, Science, and Technologies). Tom Noji (U. S.) had been appointed as a Steering Group Chair for SSG Human Interactions on Ecosystems from May 2009 through September 2009. Bill Karp (U.S.) was appointed as a Chair of SSG Ecosystem Surveys and Technologies from May 2009 through December 2011.

The SCICOM Chair announced that SCICOM had decided to move forward with the implementation of three strategic initiatives, which include climate change (~ 150-200 page SCICOM report is due to be released in June 2010); biodiversity (incorporating biodiversity issues into a general toolbox of ICES science and advisory services); and coastal zones and marine spatial planning (a cross-cutting theme that is central to development of ICES' science and is a joint SCICOM-ACOM initiative). In conjunction with these initiatives, the focus of the ICES Annual Scientific Conference (ASC) in 2010 will be on coastal zones and MSP, and on marine biodiversity at ASC 2011. There was strong sentiment shared among the Council members for the linkage of the three initiatives and for coordination with other organizations involved in these issues.

¶7. Communication Strategy: One of the goals of the 2008 ICES Strategic Plan was to build increased understanding of ICES science and marine issues through a program of communication within ICES and the public arena. It was determined that meeting the goal would necessitate a coherent program of communication that would include the full range of ICES publications and use of the media. The President informed Council that ICES presently has a well-functioning Publications Group and previously had an oversight committee (PUB). He said that responsibility, however, for the area of communications is diffuse and lacks coordination. He expressed that a clearly defined and coherent communications strategy must be developed and implemented if ICES is to be an international leader in the dissemination of information focusing on marine science. At Council, therefore, a proposal was presented that outlined guiding principles for an ICES Communication Strategy, which would involve development of a multi-faceted Communications Group within the Secretariat and an ICES Publications and Communications Group (PUBCOM) with the responsibility for addressing and responding to the needs of both SCICOM and ACOM in matters pertaining to publication and communication.

Prior to the Council Meeting, however, the Bureau had concluded the proposed Communication Strategy remains a work in progress, and that it should be further developed by the Secretariat before adoption. The strategy represents a substantial expansion of activities and the Secretariat was not prepared to accept all recommendations for expansion that included new positions, new activities, and responsibilities for the Communications group. The SCICOM Chair noted that the involvement of the scientific community is sought within the Strategy and informed Council that the General Secretary has been asked to develop the administrative framework for the Strategy, including creating a Secretariat Working Group. The United States stated its support of the Communications Strategy, but it would like more focus on stakeholders within the community and less on public outreach. Council took note of the Strategy and noted the progress made. Council mandated that ACOM, SCICOM, and the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the Strategy.

¶8. ICES and MARCOM+: The Head of Science presented progress

on ICES' involvement in the MARCOM+ consortium, formerly referred to as the "Network of Networks." ICES provides Secretariat support for coordination of the MARCOM+ project, for which the goal is to establish a sustainable and long-term partnership forum, European Marine and Maritime Science and Technology Forum (EMMSTF), which will supersede MARCOM+ as of January 2012. The Head of Science informed the Council that the aim is to have ICES continue as a leader in the coordination process and actively develop the profile of ICES as a network for marine science beyond fisheries and beyond the borders of Europe. He recommended that ICES continue to take a more proactive role in fostering such coordination processes and for the Council to approve additional funding for the project. Discussion within the Council in relation to MARCOM, a European-centered project, focused on the need of ICES to take actions to further establish its profile within the European scientific community as well develop a strategy beyond the EU. The Council took note of the positive development of the MARCOM+ project and requested that SCICOM further develop ICES' international scientific cooperation initiatives.

¶9. Capacity-Building: The SCICOM Chair provided an overview of capacity-building activities of ICES. One key aspect of such efforts is its training program that is meant to build capacity in ICES and especially support scientist involved in the advisory process. The Head of Science leads this effort within the Secretariat, with SCICOM as its driving force. ICES has five courses in place or under development, the first of which were offered in 2009. These include: stock assessment (introduction); stock assessment (advanced); Bayesian technique for stock assessment; Management Strategy Evaluation; and Ecosystem Modeling for Fisheries Management. The U.S. is significantly involved in these courses, mostly on advanced stock assessment methodology to date. Three more courses under consideration are: survey design and technical methods; advice context, chairing, communication, and outreach; and statistics relevant to fisheries and ecosystem research. Seven to 10 courses will be within the program over the next several years.

¶10. Elections and Appointments: Following statutory procedures, the following Bureau members were elected for the period 1 November 2009 to 31 October 2012. Mike Sinclair (Canada) was elected President for a three-year term; Paul Connolly (Ireland) was elected First Vice President for a three-year term; Steve Murawski (U.S.), Eero Aro (Finland), and Robin Cook (United Kingdom) were elected to the Bureau for the next three years. The following appointments were made: Steve Murawski (U.S.) and Carmella Porteiro (Spain) were appointed as new members to the Finance Committee for the next three years; Council appointed Eugene Nixon (Ireland) to a three-year term, and Mark Tasker (UK) to a one-year term as ACOM Vice Chairs; and Council appointed Manuel Barange (UK) as Chair of SCICOM for a term of three years; Ed Houde (U.S.) was re-appointed as Chair of the Awards Committee, and Fredrik Arrhenius (Sweden) appointed as a member of the Awards Committee.

¶11. Governance: Sylvain Paradis has replaced Serge Labonti as a Delegate of Canada. Juha-Markku Leppanen has replaced Matti Perttita, and Eero Aro has replaced Petri Suuronen, as Delegates of Finland. Alicia Lavmn has replaced Luis Valdis as Delegate of Spain.

¶12. Collaboration: The Council has continued its active cooperation with other international organizations, including those to which it provides scientific information and advice in the areas of fisheries management (NSACO, NEAFC, and the European Commission) and marine environmental protection (HELCOM, OSPAR, and EC DG-Environment). Cooperation with PICES has continued in various areas; including the formation of a joint Working Group on Forecasting climate change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFFCIFS), and the co-sponsorship of four symposia in 2009.

¶13. Future Meetings: Council accepted the invitation from France for the Annual Scientific Conference (ASC) to take place in Nantes, France from 20-24 September 2010, and from Poland to host the 2011 ASC in Gdansk, 19-23 September. Dr. Jane

Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator, has agreed to give the Keynote Address at ASC 2010 in Nantes. Council agreed that the dates of the next statutory meeting of the Council will take place October 27-28, 2010.

¶14. Budget: The Chair of the Finance Committee reported that final accounts for 2008 show a positive result of approximately 3.8 million DKK. The Finance Committee is comprised of the Delegates from Denmark and four other Delegates appointed by the Council for a period of three years. The United States and 15 other nations paid in full their national contributions for FY 2009. Lithuania has paid part of its 2009 payment of national contributions to ICES. Belgium still has not paid the outstanding part of the 2006 contribution, and it was recommended that the general Secretary and president follow up on this item. In September 2009, it was projected that there would be a probable surplus of up to 3.3 million DKK due to closing of projects, savings in advisory travel and meetings, and staff salaries covered by ongoing external projects.

The budget for FY2010 was approved by Council in October 2008 with national contributions set as DKK 402,000 per share. The amount of national contributions for 2010 remains unchanged from 2009, with the cost of the United States' share for FY2010 of DKK 1,206,000. Council adopted the revised proposed budget for FY2010 with the required two-thirds majority (18 votes "yes", with Russia and Lithuania not represented.)

The Finance Committee supported a 2% inflation increase for FY 2011 budget. On a roll call vote, the 2% increase in national contributions was approved with one share equal to 410,000 DKK (resulting in a 1,230,000 DKK payment from the United States for FY 2011). There was a projected mismatch between an estimated 3.8% increase in spending and the proposed 2% increase in the income in the FY 2011 budget. Council agreed that 3.3 million DKK of the 2008 surplus would be used to balance the FY 2011 budget and the remaining 500,000 DKK surplus will be added to the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF). Council adopted the forecasted budget for FY2011 with two-thirds majority (16 votes "yes," 2 opposed, and 2 absent). Latvia did not support any increase for 2011, and Iceland abstained from voting, due to the economic situation in their respective countries.

¶15. Strategic Investment Fund: New proposals for use of the SIF were developed separately by ACOM and SCICOM during their respective meetings in September. Council supported the priorities proposed by SCICOM, but noted lack of development, communication, and alignment with ACOM. The President advised that joint proposals be submitted to the Bureau under the topics of biodiversity, and coastal zone and marine spatial planning. The Council agreed to send the new additional proposals back to ACOM and SCICOM to come up with a joint proposal for use of the Strategic investment Fund up to DKKK 2.3 million.

PICES

¶16. Overview: The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) held its 18th Annual Meeting (23 -30 October, 2009) and Governing Council Meeting (31 October-1 November, 2009) in Jeju, Republic of Korea. The theme of the Annual Meeting was focused on understanding ecosystem dynamics and pursuing ecosystem approaches to management. All Contracting Parties (Canada, Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and the United States) were present at the Governing Council meeting. The U.S. delegation was led by appointed commissioners Dr. Samuel Pooley (NOAA/NMFS) and Dr. George Boehlert (Oregon State University). Dr. Stephen DeVincent (DOS/OES/OPA) served the delegation as an advisor. Ms. Patricia Livingston (NOAA) served as Chair of the Finance & Administration Committee, completing her first of two years in the position. Dr. John Stein (NOAA/NMFS) served as Chair of the Science Board, and will continue in that role until the end of the Annual Meeting in 2010.

¶17. Annual Meeting (AM): Professor Kuh Kim (Republic of Korea), an internationally distinguished physical oceanographer,

received the 2009 Wooster Award at the Opening Session of the AM. The keynote lecture, given by Chang Ik Zhang, Pukyong National University, was on Ecosystem-based fisheries assessments and management: A step towards FUTURE Implementation of ecosystem approaches to management. There were 487 registrants for the Annual Meeting of which 90 were from the United States.

18. Implementation of FUTURE: PICES Integrative Scientific Program: "Forecasting and Understanding Trends, Uncertainty, and Responses of the North Pacific Marine Ecosystems (FUTURE) will be one of the highest priority activities of PICES over the next decade. The concept of FUTURE is: "To understand and forecast responses of North Pacific marine ecosystems to climate change and human activities at basic and regional scales, and to broadly communicate this scientific information to members, governments, resource managers, stakeholders, and the public." The basic principles of the program were finalized in 2008 and the FUTURE Implementation Plan was finalized in June 2009. Following the adoption of the Implementation Plan, three advisory panels, Anthropogenic Influences on Coastal Ecosystems (AICE), Climate, Oceanographic Variability and Ecosystems (COVE) and Status, Outlooks, Forecasts and Engagement (SOFE) were established to provide continuing direction, leadership, coordination, and synthesis within PICES toward attaining the goal of FUTURE. Work of all three Advisory Panels (AICE, COVE, and SOFE) will address the understanding needed to answer what determines an ecosystem's intrinsic resilience and vulnerability to natural and anthropogenic forcing. COVE will focus on the response of ecosystems to natural and anthropogenic forcing, and how might they change in the future. AICE will also address how human activities affect coastal ecosystems and how societies are affected by changes in these ecosystems. The Advisory Panels met for the first time, concurrently and then jointly, during the week in Jeju. Science Board, which serves as the Scientific Committee for FUTURE, will consider the outcomes of the meetings. The Council approved proposed changes in the PICES Rules of Procedure to incorporate FUTURE into the organizational structure of PICES.

19. PICES Strategic Plan: The PICES Strategic Plan was approved by Council in 2004. The launching of FUTURE and other developments within the organization has demonstrated the potential need for updates to the Plan. At PICES 2009, the Council approved the establishment of a Study Group on Updating the PICES Strategic Plan, under direction of the Council. The Study Group will review the PICES Strategic Plan, the FUTURE Implementation Plan, and current Action Plans of PICES Standing Committees; the strategic plans of other relevant organizations, such as ICES; consider the views of Contracting Parties on priorities for marine research in the North Pacific Ocean over the next 5-10 years; and propose revisions to the PICES Strategy Plan, if necessary, in time for consideration by Council at the PICES 2010 meeting. The Study Group will be led by the Chairman of PICES, Dr. Tokio Wada. Dr. John Stein (NOAA), as Science Board Chairman, is a member of the Study Group. It will propose revisions to the PICES Strategic Plan, if necessary, in time for consideration by Council at PICES-2010.

20. Study Group on Human Dimensions (SG-HD): The implementation plan for FUTURE calls for PICES scientists to make societal implications of their science more explicit and accessible through long-term engagement and communication among scientists, decision-makers, stakeholders, and across sectors. At the 2009 inter-sessional meeting (April 29, Qingdao, PR China), Governing Council approved in principle the establishment of a Study Group on Human Dimensions (SG-HD), subject to revisions of the proposed Terms of Reference. In Qingdao, Council endorsed Dr. Mitsutaku Makino (Japan) as the interim SG-HD Chairman, and at PICES-2009, Council received a presentation by Dr. Makino and approved the establishment of the Study Group. In order to fully utilize the one-year time frame of the Study Group, the main focus will be on ecosystem-based fisheries management (EBFM). As stated in the revised Terms of Reference, the Study Group intends to: review how social science has been used/applied globally and regionally in EBFM and the theoretical basis for these practices; review the social scientific tools and information available for EBFM in PICES member countries;

develop an inventory of practices for use of social economic information appropriate to the circumstances in each PICES member country; and prepare a final report on activities and findings of the group and make recommendations on the desirability of establishing an expert group related to the socio-economic sciences within PICES and the role of such a group. The Study Group will work under the direction of Science Board. Council is now accepting nominations for two experts from each Contracting Party to serve as members of the Study Group. SG-HD will prepare a final report by December 2010.

¶21. Annual Contributions: All Contracting parties met their financial obligations for FY 2009. Fund-raising continues to be an important component of PICES activities as current funding constraints – from an increase in annual contributions only at the rate of inflation in Canada – have recently impeded improvements in and expansion of PICES. The level of external funding has increased significantly over the last several years, and a substantial part of the current operational budget is now supported by voluntary contributions, grants, and partnerships (30-80% of the total contributions from PICES member states for the period from 2004-2009). In the Finance and Administration meeting, the Executive Secretary noted that although funding for the North Pacific Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) Program has improved over the last two years, there remains a shortfall in meeting the target funding level of \$250,000 for the project. The Council directed the Executive Secretary to write letters soliciting new members for the North Pacific CPR Consortium.

¶22. Financing of High Priority Projects: Two high-priority projects for PICES are development of FUTURE and preparation for the next North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report (NPESR). In 2008, funding became available for high-priority PICES projects through the use of encumbered funds. Given current plans, the NPESR appears to have sufficient financial support. The balance of earmarked funds for the development of FUTURE, however, is small (\$18,872). Council accepted the recommendation to direct the Executive Secretary to send a letter to the Contracting Parties that contains information on planned FUTURE activities and to make contributions to these activities.

¶23. PICES Intern Program: The Executive Secretary informed the Council that Ms. Tatiana Semenova (Pacific Research Fisheries Center, Russia) was selected as the 2010/2011 PICES intern. It was estimated that at the end of FY 2009, PICES will be holding about CAD\$10,000 for the Intern Program. With the current stipend level of CAD\$2,000 per month, the amount would be insufficient to maintain the Program for only five months in 2010. In a response to requesting voluntary contributions, the United States, Canada, and Korea committed to contribute US\$15,000, CAD\$10,000, and US\$10,000 respectively, to the Trust Fund for the Intern Program. The contributions will be sufficient to maintain the Intern Program for a full year without using registration fee revenue.

¶24. Registration Fees: At PICES-2001, Council approved the charging of a registration fee for future Annual Meetings and that the fee structure should be reviewed on an annual basis. It was agreed that the registration fees would be used to support high priority projects and the Intern Program, and to cover costs of the Annual Meeting. In Jeju, the Finance and Administration Committee reviewed the current registration fee structure and has been unchanged since 2004 and recommended that Council approve the \$50 increase in the Regular and early registration categories but no increase in the Student and Spousal categories. Council approved of the increases, and the 2010 registration fees (CAD\$) are Regular (\$275), Early (\$200), Student (\$50), and Spousal (\$50).

¶25. Budget for FY 2010 and Forecast Budget for FY 2011: In FY2009, the estimated total income is \$577,400. The amount includes \$388,999 in voluntary contributions and grants (\$351,499 credited to the Working Capital Fund (WCF) and \$37,500 credited to the Trust Fund). The Council was informed of the 75% reduction in the amount of interest earned in 2009, which is approximately \$18,000 less than in FY 2008.

The Committee reviewed the proposed FY 2010 budget of \$797,000 and recommended its approval by Council. A 1.5% increase in the annual fees in 2010 had been proposed in order to compensate for the mandatory salary increases within the Secretariat that were projected to occur in FY2010. There was no consensus among Committee members to recommend approval of the proposed annual dues increase because it was not consistent with the guideline accepted at PICES-1999 stating that "the annual contribution will increase at the rate of inflation in Canada." The rate of inflation in Canada has been close to 0%.

The Committee had the option of reducing the budget or making a transfer from the WCF to balance the budget. It recommended the transfer of \$110,000 from the Working Capital Fund, setting the total annual contribution at \$687,000 and the 2010 fees at \$114,500 per Contracting Party. These were unchanged from FY 2009 levels.

Council approved the forecast FY2011 budget of \$814,000 (based upon information as of September 1, 2009), which is 2.13% higher than the FY 2010 budget.

¶26. Report of the Study Group on Restructuring of the PICES Annual Meeting: With the expansion of PICES activities, its Annual Meeting, which includes the science conference, scientific and administrative committees, and the Governing Council meeting, has expanded in scale and duration. Since 2000, the Meeting runs for 10 days (7 days for the regular meeting and 3 days for preliminary activities). Inter-sessional activities, such as symposia and workshops co-sponsored with other organizations such as ICES and FAO have also increased. The growth has placed additional demands on the Contracting Parties to support travel for scientists and on the Secretariat to arrange events. Since there are some limitations as to the number of scientists who can participate in PICES activities and in financial support from the Contracting Parties, there was the need to review PICES' current activities and consider cost-saving measures for sustaining PICES activities. In 2008, therefore, Council established a Study Group to formally address the issue.

Recommendations from the Study Group were presented at this year's Council meeting. They included, but are not limited to, increasing the number of concurrent scientific sessions from three per day to four per day and holding the Closing Session half a day earlier than is the current practice. This reduction of half a day would allow for expanding the duration of the Science Board from 1 to 1.5 days to accommodate its new role as responsible for FUTURE. The Study Group also recommended holding overtone meetings of Scientific/Technical Committees to examine and confirm points of discussion in preparation for their official meetings at the Annual Meeting and that PICES develop a long-term strategy to accommodate the growing financial and logistical demands on the organization. The strategy will require maintaining constant communication among the Council, Science Board, and Finance and Administration members on interests and financial situations within each Contracting Party.

Other recommendations for restructuring the Annual Meeting included Science Board utilizing the Inter-sessional Meeting for strategic planning, as well as Science Board and Scientific/Technical Committees exploring the possibility of holding an inter-sessional video conference among the member countries, especially for PICES expert groups. This latter approach could enable cost savings and both recommendations would also serve to provide for more focused discussions at the Annual Meeting.

¶27. Inter-sessional Meeting (ISB): Science Board had already indicated the importance of having an inter-sessional meeting in 2010, to be held in conjunction with the PICES/ICES/FAO symposium on "Climate change effects on fish and fisheries: Forecasting impacts, assessing ecosystem responses, and evaluation management strategies" to be convened April 26-29, 2020, in Sendai, Japan. Council approved of the 2-day inter-sessional Science Board meeting to be held immediately prior to the symposium. Japan indicated that it is prepared to host the

ISB-2010, and Korea noted that it will investigate the possibility of hosting a FUTURE program inter-sessional meeting in 2010 or 2011. The Governing Council does not plan to meet inter-sessionally.

It is typical that the Contracting Party that hosts the Annual Meeting also hosts the next inter-sessional meeting. In this scenario, Korea would host both PICES-2009 and ISB-2010. However, because of the large number of members of the Science Board who are expected to attend the PICES/ICES/FAO symposium in Sendai, Council agreed that the ISB-2010 should be held in conjunction with the symposium. Korea had allocated US\$100,000 to host the ISB-2010. Korea, however, will attempt to reallocate the previously designated funds to support the FUTURE program, potentially hosting a FUTURE event (e.g., a special symposium or Advisory Panel Meeting).

¶28. Future Annual Meetings: PICES 2010 will be held from October 22-31, in Portland, Oregon. The U.S. delegation confirmed that it will not require any funds from the organization to help offset costs of the meeting. NOAA has contributed approximately \$200k for hosting the 2010 Annual Meeting in the form of a grant to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission to act as meeting organizer and DOS/OES has contributed US\$51,000 directly to PICES. However it is anticipated that an additional \$50,000-100,000 would be required to host the meeting which would be in line with DOS/OES funding for previous Annual Meetings held in the United States (e.g., Honolulu in 2004). The budget will be finalized once the PICES Secretariat visits Portland early in 2010.

The theme for the 2010 Annual Meeting will be "North Pacific Ecosystems Today, and Challenges in Understanding and Forecasting Change." PICES 2020 will focus on major issues that are affecting North Pacific marine ecosystems, including but not limited to: changes in cycling of carbon and other elements, increasing ocean acidification, chemical pollution, shifts in species interactions, sea level rise, and coastal erosion. Ideally, the contribution of climate change to these ecosystems can be separately quantified so that knowledge and information from this symposium will contribute to the next report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change scheduled for 2013.

The Russian Federation presented status of planning for PICES-¶2011. Khabarovsk is the site currently under consideration, which the Executive Secretary will visit in the spring of 2010. Some logistical issues were discussed relating to multiple venues, poster session matters and the visa application process. The Committee recommended that consideration be given to holding the meeting from October 14-22, 2011, which would return to a more traditional time in October for the annual meeting. The proposed theme of PICES 2011 is "Mechanisms of Marine Ecosystem Reorganization in the North Pacific. The Committee recommended that, in keeping with the 6-year rotation cycle, Council invite Japan to explore the possibility of hosting PICES-2012, and inform the Secretariat by March 2010.

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